

## **Acton Council on Aging Board Meeting**

### **Minutes for 9/10/2012**

**Present:** Barbara Willson, Chair; Charlie Aaronson, Vice Chair; Ann Corcoran, Secretary; Sharon Mercurio, Director; Sally Thompson, Treasurer; Paul Turner; Marion Maxwell, Stephen Baran; Jim Papachristos; Norma Wu, Liaison Friends of the COA; Mike Gowing, Liaison Board of Selectmen;

**Absent:** Jim Papachristos; Sgt. Ray Grey, (Liaison Police Department).

### **Call To Order: Barbara Willson called the meeting to order at 3:30**

Minutes of June 11, 2012 Meeting were introduced and accepted as amended by Barbara Willson

#### **New Businesses:**

I. Future meetings change: A Day/time a proposal was introduced by the Senior Center director to change the meeting day and time. Sharon suggested that the meetings be held on the First Monday of the month at 3:00 (on holiday weeks the second Monday) this change would allow Sharon to elicit advice (if appropriate) on upcoming meetings/events to which she would be representing the Senior Center. In addition Sharon could report on the past full month in her Director's report. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to change the COA Board meetings date and time.

II. Purpose of COA Board/Review: Barbara Willson articulated anew the purpose of the Board as advisory only to The Senior Center Director. In this role the change of date/time would allow Sharon to seek advice when and as needed. The description of each board roles was described the Senior Center Bulletin. A suggestion was made that future bulletins could focus on the full set of activities that Minuteman Senior Services provides, one of the many boards that represent the senior population of Acton.

III. Liaison Assignments The liaison from other boards are non-voting members of this board. Representatives from these boards are unchanged: Norma Wu from the Friends, Mike Gowing from the Selectmen, Charlie Aaronson from Minuteman. In addition some of the COA board requested to be our liaison with some other town boards: specifically: Marion Maxwell would represent us at any Acton 20/20 Commission meetings as well at the Friends of the COA meetings, Steve will represent us at the COD meetings, Charlie will continue to be our liaison to Minuteman. Paul expressed an interest in informing the board of political events impacting seniors.

IV. Director's Report \*(attached) - Sharon Mercurio distributed a report on the many events held at the Senior Center over the summer a highlight of which was the filming of the movie. "Labor Day", she also articulated the long wait lists for programs and trips at the center this fall and in particular the exercise classes.

Sharon also asked for our input on the overwhelming challenge of making the Center able to accommodate the expanding needs of a growing senior population and the demands for safety and programs to meet these needs. Sharon spoke about those needs of space, safety and privacy based on the many components of the roles the Center plays in the lives of the Senior population including but not limited to Health and Wellness clinics, support for financial issues, intellectual and physical programs.

Following a discussion of the many complex issues involved in having to stay at the Audubon Hill location Marion Maxwell volunteered to locate the original research on the location done in 2008 and 2009 which may assist Sharon and the Town in providing revamping the center in the most cost effective manner.

V. Announcements: The finding of some mosquito populations with EEE required the town to institute a spraying program Map and sections to be sprayed on Town's website.

## **VI. Liaison Reports**

Minuteman Senior Services – Charlie Aaronson - Nothing currently to report.

Board of Selectmen – Mike Gowing- currently Selectmen working on developing an inclusive list for at risk seniors and disabled as well as Shelter needs if a natural disaster strikes the area.

Friends of COA – Norma Wu The Friends are actively involved in preparing the raffle of a handmade Quilt and wheel of gift cards. The quilt and other raffle items will be on sale at the polling places in November. They are also preparing for the annual fair in late November.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 4:45

**Next meeting Oct 1, 2012 t 3:00**